

Message Text

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 8886
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UNCLAS SECTION 02 OF 04 BRUSSELS 0684 VIPTO 007

DEPARTMENT PASS OTHER CAPITALS AS APPROPRIATE

PASS DOD AND WHITE HOUSE FOR NSC

AT THE SAME TIME, THE PRESIDENT AND HIS ADMINISTRATION
ARE VITALLY AWARE OF THE CONTINUING GROWTH IN SOVIET MILITARY POWER,
AND THE UNCERTAINTIES THAT LIE AHEAD WITH INEVITABLE CHANGES IN
SOVIET LEADERSHIP IN THE YEARS TO COME. THE GROWTH OF SOVIET
MILITARY POWER MAKES US KEENLY AWARE OF THE NEED FOR THE NATO
ALLIANCE TO MODERNIZE AND IMPROVE ITS DEFENSES--NOT FOR THE
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SAKE OF MILITARY POWER ITSELF, BUT RATHER FOR A MORE FUNDAMENTAL
REASON. THIS REASON IS STATED IN THE NORTH ATLANTIC TREATY: THEAT
WE ARE DETERMINED TO SAFEGUARD THE FREEDOM, THE COMMON HERITAGE
AND THE CIVILIZATION OF OUR PEOPLES--FOUNDED ON THE PRINCIPLES OF
DEMOCRACY, INDIVIDUAL LIBERTY, JUSTICE, AND THE RULE OF LAW.

AS PRESIDENT CARTER SAID IN HIS INAUGURAL ADDRESS
ABOUT OUR OWN COUNTRY:

"WE ARE A STRONG NATION, AND WE WILL
MAINTAIN STRENGTH SO SUFFICIENT THAT IT NEED
NOT BE PROVEN IN COMBAT--A QUIET STRENGTH
BASED NO MERELY ON THE SIZE OF AN ARSENAL,
BUT ON THE NOBILITY OF IDEAS."

THE ATLANTIC ALLIANCE HAS SUCCESSFULLY WITHSTOOD
REPEATED TESTING FOR MORE THAN A QUARTER CENTURY. AND
AS PRESIDENT CARTER BEGINS HIS ADMINISTRATION, WE MARK
ANOTHER MILESTONE IN US-EUROPEAN RELATIONS--THE 30TH
ANNIVERSARY OF THE MARSHALL PLAN. TODAY, AS WE LOOK
BACK ON HOW MUCH WE HAVE DONE TOGETHER, IT IS FITTING TO
RECALL WHAT SECRETARY OF STATE MARSHALL SAID AT HARVARD IN
JUNE 1947:

"OUR POLICY IS DIRECTED NOT AGAINST ANY COUNTRY
OR DOCTRINE BUT AGAINST HUNGER, POVERTY, DESPERATION,
AND CHAOS. IT PURPOSE SHOULD BE THE REVIVAL OF A
WORKING ECONOMY IN THE WORLD SO AS TO PERMIT THE
EMERGENCE OF POLITICAL AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS IN WHICH
FREE INSTITUTIONS CAN EXIST."
AND THIS CONCERN WITH BASIC VALUES STILL MOTIVATES US, TODAY.

MR. SECRETARY GENERAL, MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL, THIRUTY
YEARS AGO THE UNITED STATES ENTERED INTO A FIRM COMMITMENT TO
ENDURING INVOLVEMENT ON THIS CONTINENT--AS VITAL TO BOTH THE
UNITED STATES AND EUROPE, AND AS REFLECTING SHARED POLITICAL
AND HUMAN VALUES. PRESIDENT CARTER HAS ASKED ME PERSONALLY
TO CONVERY TO YOU THAT THE AMERICAN COMMITMENT REMAINS FIRM
AND UNDIMINISHED.

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IN SUPPORT OF OUR CLOSE TIES WITH OUR NATO ALLIES--OUR
COMMITMENT TO ALLIED DEFENSE --PRESIDENT CARTER IS DETERMINED
TO MAINTAIN FULLY EFFECTIVE DEFENSE FORCES IN EUROPE. AS YOU
ARE WELL AWARE, WE ARE DETERMINED TO REDUCE WASTE AND INEFFICIENCY
IN THE U.S. DEFENSE BUDGET. BUT HE HAS ASKED ME TO INFORM YOU
THAT HIS NEW BUDGET AND THESE EFFICIENCIES WILL NOT RESULT IN
ANY DECREASE IN PLANNED INVESTMENT IN NATO DEFENSE--AND THESE
PLANS INVOLVE SOME GROWTH.

BEFORE I LEFT WASHINGTON, PRESIDENT CARTER EMPHASIZED TO
ME HIS DEEP CONCERN ABOUT NATO'S DEFENSES. HE TOLD ME THAT HE
IS PREPARED TO CONSIDER INCREASED U.S. INVESTMENT IN NATO'S
DEFENSE. IN TURN, WE LOOK TO AMERICA'S ALLIES TO JOIN WITH US
IN IMPROVING NATO'S DEFENSE FORCES TO THE LIMIT OF INDIVIDUAL
ABILITIES, TO PROVIDE A DEFENSE FULLY ADEQUATE TO OUR NEEDS.
OF COURSE, ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL PROBLEMS MAKE A STRONG CLAIM
ON OUR RESOURCES--NO LESS SO IN THE UNITED STATES

THAN IN EUROPE. AND IN A TIME OF DETENTE, IT IS EASY
TO LOSE SIGHT OF THE NEED FOR ADEQUATE DEFENSE. BUT THIS
NEED IS INESCAPABLE. IT DEMANDS CONTINUING EFFORTS IN COMMON.

THE ALLIANCE AS A WHOLE MUST TAKE INTO ACCOUNT THE GROWTH
IN SOVIET MILITARY POWER, AND TOGETHER AGREE ON THE APPROPRIATE
RESPONSE. IN IMPROVING OUR DEFENSE FORCES, WE MUST REDOUBLE
OUR EFFORTS TO STANDARDIZE WEAPONS, RATIONALIZE OUR MILITARY
POSTURE, INCREASE EFFICIENCY, AND IMPROVE REINFORCEMENT CAPABILITY.
WE MUST PLACE GREATER EMPHASIS ON IMPROVED FORCE READINESS. AND
AS AN ALLIANCE, WE CANNOT ACCEPT REDUCTIONS IN NATO DEFENSE
CAPABILITIES EXCEPT THROUGH NEGOTIATIONS WITH THE WARSAW PACT--
NEGOTIATIONS FULLY SECURING ALLIED INTERESTS AND LEADING TO A
MORE STABLE MILITARY BALANCE.

NEGOTIATIONS ON FORCE LEVELS IN EUROPE--MBFR--MUST
MOVE FORWARD WITH THE CLOSEST ATTENTION PAID TO THE
INTERESTS OF EACH MEMBER STATE, AND AS A CLEAR EXPRES-
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SION OF COMMON AND AGREED POSITIONS.

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FURTHERMORE, PRESIDENT CARTER IS COMMITTED
TO AN EARLY RESUMPTION OF THE STRATEGIC ARMS LIMITATION
TALKS, TAKING TOWARDS ANOTHER STEP THIS YEAR IN THE
EFFORT TO END THE STRATEGIC ARMS RACE WITH THE SOVIET
UNION. HE PUBLICLY STATED THAT THREE BASIC PRINCIPLES
WILL GUIDE HIM IN THIS EFFORT.
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--HE WILL PURSUE ARMS CONTROL AGREEMENTS IN THE
BEST INTERESTS OF THE UNITED STATES, THE ALLIANCE
AND WORLD PEACE,
--HE WILL INSIST ON NO LESS THAN EQUIVALENT ADVANTAGE
FOR THE WEST IN ANY AGREEMENT, AND
--HE WILL STRENGTHEN CONSULTATIONS AND COOPERATION
WITH AMERICA'S NATURAL FRIENDS AND ALLIES THROUGH-
OUT THE NEGOTIATING PROCESS.

THE PRESIDENT HAS ASKED ME TODAY TO ARRIRM AGAIN HIS
INTENTION TO CONSULT CLOSELY WITH OUR NATO ALLIES BEFORE THE
STRATEGIC ARMS LIMITATION TALKS ARE RESUMED. HE ALSO
LOOKS FORWARD TO WORKING IN CLOSEST COOPERATION WITH YOU
ON M-B-F-R. AND WHILE THE NEW ADMINISTRATION IS UNDER-
TAKING A CAREFUL REVIEW OF THESE NEGOTIATIONS, WE ANTICIPATE
NO EARLY CHANGE IN U.S. PROPOSALS TO OUR ALLIES CONCERNING THE
ALLIED POSITION AT THE FORCE REDUCTION TALKS.

AT THE SAME TIME, PRESIDENT HAS ASKED ME TO EXPRESS
TO YOU HIS DESIRE FOR CLOSEST POSSIBLE CONSULTATIONS ON THE
IMPLEMENTATION OF THE FINAL ACT OF THE CONFERENCE ON SECURITY
AND COOPERATION IN EUROPE--AND ON LOOKING TO THE FUTURE.
BOTH SEEKING THE FULL IMPLEMENTATION OF THE HELSINKI AGREEMENT--
AND SEARCHING FOR FURTHER WAYS TO IMPROVE SECURITY AND COOPERATION
IN EUROPE--ARE VITAL TO THE POSSIBILITIES FOR PRODUCTIVE DISCUSSIONS
AT THE FORTHCOMING REVIEW CONFERENCE IN BELGRADE. BUT BOTH DEPEND
ON WESTERN UNITY, AND ON THE SUCCESS OF OUR EFFORTS TO WORK
TOGETHER--BOTH IN NATO AND IN OTHER FORUMS--IN THE MONTHS
BEFORE BELGRADE. AS PRESIDENT CARTER SAID IN HIS INAUGURAL

ADDRESS: "BECAUSE WE ARE FREE, WE CAN NEVER BE INDIFFERENT TO THE FATE OF FREEDOM ELSEWHERE"

THE ISSUES THAT I HAVE DISCUSSED SO FAR RELATE DIRECTLY TO OUR SECURITY IN THE IMMEDIATE AREA COVERED BY THE ALLIANCE, AND TO THE FUTURE OF OUR COOPERATIVE RELATIONS TOGETHER. YET, WHILE THE NATO ALLIANCE PROVIDES EACH OF OUR NATIONS

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WITH THE BLESSINGS OF PEACE AND SECURITY IN THE NORTH ATLANTIC, TENSION AND CONFLICT IN SOME OTHER PARTS OF THE WORLD INVOLVING ECONOMIC AND POLITICAL AS WELL AS MILITARY ISSUES CAN ADVERSELY AFFECT OUR COMMON SECURITY. PRESIDENT CARTER AND SECRETARY OF STATE VANCE ARE TURNING EARLY ATTENTION TO OTHER AREAS OF VITAL CONCERN: IN THE MIDDLE EAST, IN SOUTHERN AFRICA, IN CYPRUS, AND REGARDING BOTH THE SALE OF CONVENTIONAL ARMS AND EFFORTS TO HALT THE SPREAD OF NUCLEAR WEAPONS. ON THESE ISSUES, AS WELL, THE PRESIDENT LOOKS FORWARD TO WORKING CLOSELY WITH OUR FRIENDS AND ALLIES IN WESTERN EUROPE.

MR. SECRETARY-GENERAL, MEMBER OF THE COUNCIL, WE DO NOT LIVE IN EASY TIMES; BUT THEY ARE HOPEFUL TIMES, AS WELL. THIS IS A PERIOD OF HISTORIC OPPORTUNITY. ALL AMERICANS LOOK TO THE FUTURE CONFIDENT IN THE BELIEF THAT-- WITH VISION, HARD WORK, AND FIRM UNITY OF PURPOSE--OUR ASSOCIATION OF FREE PEOPLES WILL CONTINUE TO PROVIDE THE SECURITY AND COOPERATION VITAL TO US ALL.

THIS ASSOCIATION GOES BEYOND NATO ITSELF. FOR THE STRENGTH AND VITALITY OF THE NATO ALLIANCE IS ONLY ONE TASK FACING ALL OF US. AS WE SEEK TO PROMOTE AND STRENGTHEN OUR SECURITY IN THE BROADEST SENSE, WE MUST ALSO USE EFFECTIVELY THOSE OTHER FORUMS WE HAVE TO RESOLVE THE GREAT ECONOMIC AND OTHER ISSUES FACING OUR NATIONS AND PEOPLES. AND WE MUST WORK WITH THOSE COUNTRIES FACING ECONOMIC DIFFICULTY, AND SUPPORT DEMOCRATIC INSTITUTIONS.

TOGETHER, WE SHARE MANY STRENGTHS. OURS IS AN ALLIANCE OF DEMOCRATIC GOVERNMENTS, OF ECONOMIES WHICH HAVE PROVIDED AN UNPRECEDENTED ABUNDANCE, OF ENERGETIC AND IMAGINATIVE PEOPLES. OUR COUNTRIES ARE PART OF A GREAT CIVILIZATION OF HIGH MORAL PURPOSE, DEEP HUMAN VALUES, AND A SHARED COMMITMENT TO JUSTICE AND COMPASSION. OUR SOCIETIES ARE RESILIENT AND

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FLEXIBLE, AND THANKS TO NATO WE HAVE A STRONG COMMON
DEFENSE.

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DEPARTMENT PASS OTHER CAPITALS AS APPROPRIATE

PASS DOD AND WHITE HOUSE FOR NSC

PRESIDENT CARTER AND HIS ADMINISTRATION ARE
DEDICATED NOT ONLY TO PRESERVING THESE STRENGTHS AND
VIRTUES, BUT ALSO TO BUILDING ON THEM IN THE YEARS AHEAD.
THIS IS HIS BASIC MESSAGE TO YOU AND TO YOUR COUNTRIES.
I HOPE MY VISIT HERE WILL ALSO ENABLE ME TO CONVEY TO THE
PRESIDENT YOUR THOUGHTS AND YOUR CONCERNS. FOR THESE
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WILL BE OF GREAT VALUE TO US IN WASHINGTON AS WE SHAPE
OUR OWN POLICIES AND PROGRAMS. I LOOK FORWARD TO HEARING
YOUR COMMENTS.

YEARS AGO, JEAN MONNET, THE FATHER OF EUROPE, SPOKE
ELOQUENTLY ON THE PROBLEMFACING US: " EUROPE AND AMERICA," HE SAID,
"MUST ACKNOWLEDGE THAT NEITHER OF US IS DEFENDING A PARTICULAR COUNTRY,

THAT WE ARE ALL DEFENDING OUR COMMON CIVILIZATION." WE HAVE
ACKNOWLEDGED THAT BASIC TRUTH, AND IT WILL BIND US EVER CLOSER
TOGETHER IN THE YEARS TO COME.

THANK YOU.

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